

Appl. No. 09/784,622  
Amendment and/or Response  
Reply to Office action of 26 January 2005

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### REMARKS / DISCUSSION OF ISSUES

Claims 1-13 and 19-25 are pending in the application. Claims 19-25 are newly added. No new matter is introduced.

The Office action rejects claims 1-11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Ferber et al. (USPA 2002/0004746, hereinafter Ferber). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 1, upon which claims 2-11 depend, claims a method of providing access to information content, that includes enabling a transfer of the information content from a repository to a mobile storage medium, at a transit terminal that includes one of an airport, a spaceport, a boat dock, a train station, and a bus stop, and providing use of the information content from the storage medium in a communication-restricted environment.

Ferber teaches gaining access to discount "e-coupons" via a wireless network, and the subsequent redemption of such coupons.

Ferber does not teach providing a transfer of information content at a transit terminal, as specifically claimed, and Ferber does not teach providing use of the information content in a communication-restricted environment, as also specifically claimed.

The applicant specifically defines a communication-restricted environment in claim 1 as:

"[an] environment that blocks public access to an information content that would otherwise be available except for being within the communication-restricted environment"

Ferber does not teach a communication-restricted environment, as defined by the applicant, and does not teach providing use of the information content in such a communication-restricted environment.

The Advisory Action of 25 May 2005 asserts that any computer environment that requires a user to provide user IDs and passwords to gain network access corresponds to the applicant's claimed communication-restricted environment. The

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applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion, because a network that requires users to provide user IDs and passwords are not "otherwise available except for being within the communication-restricted environment", as specifically claimed. The user ID/password protected network is not "otherwise available" in another environment. In the applicant's claimed invention, the information content is publicly accessible, except from within the restricted environment, such as on board an aircraft. A network that requires user IDs and passwords to gain access does not provide public access from outside a restricted environment.

Because Ferber fails to teach each of the elements of the applicant's claimed invention, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Ferber.

Claim 13 is dependent upon claim 12, and therefore includes each of the elements of claim 12. The Office action acknowledges that Ferber does not teach each of elements of claim 12 (Office action, page 5, last 2 lines through page 6, line 2), and thus the applicant respectfully maintains that the rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over Ferber is unfounded.

The Office action rejects claims 6 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ferber and Sporgis et al. (USP 6,320,495, hereinafter Sporgis). The applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 6 is dependent upon claim 1. As noted above, Ferber fails to teach the elements of claim 1, and Sporgis does not overcome this deficiency.

Because neither Ferber nor Sporgis, individually or collectively, teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 1, upon which claim 6 depends, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ferber and Sporgis.

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Claim 12 claims a method of providing access to an information content, the method comprising: at the transit terminal that includes one of an airport, a spaceport, a boat dock, a train station, and a bus stop, enabling transfer of the information content to a mobile storage medium; assigning a traveling location to an individual in a means of transportation, the means of transportation including the mobile storage medium; and, providing at the assigned traveling location an apparatus to enable the individual to access the information content in a communication-restricted environment.

As noted above, Ferber does not teach transferring information content at a transit terminal, and Ferber does not teach enabling access to the information content in a communication-restricted environment.

The Office action acknowledges that Ferber does not teach assigning a traveling location to an individual in a means of transportation, and relies upon Sporgis for this teaching. The applicant respectfully disagrees with this characterization of Sporgis.

Sporgis teaches a "Treasure Hunt" game using GPS equipped wireless devices. Sporgis is silent with regard to assigning a location in a means of transportation to an individual. Although Sporgis teaches that a GPS-enabled communication device can be mounted on automobiles or other means of transportation, Sporgis does not teach assigning a traveling location to an individual in a means of transportation, as specifically claimed in claim 12.

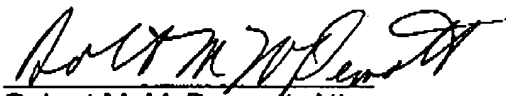
Because neither Ferber nor Sporgis, individually or collectively, teach or suggest all the claim limitations of claim 12, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Ferber and Sporgis.

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In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of record, allow all the pending claims, and find the application to be in condition for allowance. If any points remain in issue that may best be resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert M. McDermott, Attorney  
Registration Number 41,508  
patents@lawyer.com

1824 Federal Farm Road  
Montross, VA 22520  
Phone: 804-493-0707  
Fax: 215-243-7525